MINUTES

OF THE

NINETEENTH SPRING SESSION

OF THE

Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association

HELD WITH THE CHURCH AT

Lawyer's Spring, Anson County, N. C.,

May 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, 1903;

ALSO OF THE

Seventy-Second Annual Session

HELD WITH THE CHURCH AT

Freedom, Stanly County, N. C.,

October 3rd, 4th, and 5th, 1903.

Compiled and Distributed by J. W. JONES, Clerk and Treas.,
Marshville, N. C., R. F. D. No. 1.

MINUTES

OF THE

NINETEENTH SPRING SESSION

OF THE

Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association

HELD WITH THE CHURCH AT

Lawyer's Spring, Anson County, N. C.,

May 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, 1903;

ALSO OF THE

Seventy-Second Annual Session

HELD WITH THE CHURCH AT

Freedom, Stanly County, N. C.,

October 3rd, 4th, and 5th, 1903.

Compiled and Distributed by J. W. JONES, Clerk and Treas.,
Marshville, N. C., R. F. D. No. 1.

Proceedings Spring Session, 1903.

LAWYERS SPRING, Anson County, N. C., May 2, 1903.

Introductory sermon delivered by Elder A. G. Morton, from 21st verse of 1st chapter of St. Matthew. Intermission forty-five minutes; then assembled in the house and service opened with praise and prayer by Elder J. E. Williams. The Association then proceeded to business, Elder Mills presiding.

1. Called for and read letters from the several churches and their status minuted.

2. Elected by motion Elder J. F. Mills moderator and J. W. Jones clerk.

3. Called on corresponding messengers from sister associations to report. No report.

4. Invited visiting brethren of sister associations to seats. Elders P. D. Gold, W. A. Simpkins, E. E. Lundy and G. Bryan took seats.

5. Appointed on committee of arrangements Brethren S. L. Mullis, S. A. Helms, Aaron Furr, with Moderator and Clerk.

6. Appointed Elders P. D. Gold, G. Bryan, W. A. Simpkins and E. E. Lundy to occupy the stand on tomorrow.

7. Adjourned to 10 a. m. Monday.

Benediction by the Moderator.

Sunday, May 3rd.

Services opened by Elder G. Bryan, who preached from Tytus 2nd chapter and 11th verse.

Elder P. D. Gold followed from Isaiah 42nd chapter and 4th verse. Intermission one hour.

Elder Lundy then preached from Matthew 13th chapter and 1st to 12th verse, followed by Elder W. A. Simpkins from Deuteronomy, "Give ear, O ye heavens," etc.

The word was spoken in power to a large concourse of people.

Monday Morning, May 4th.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Praise and prayer by Elder A. G. Morton.

8. Called on committee of arrangements to report. Report submitted, adopted and committee discharged.

9. Called names of messengers, noted absentees and read rules of decorum.

10. Called on presbyteries to report. Elder J. E. Williams reported that Elder J. F. Mills and himself formed a presbytery at Lawyers Spring church on March 6th, 1903, and ordained Brother Walter Edwards to the full work of the gospel ministry.

11. That we return thanks to God, this church and people of this vicinity for kindness and hospitality during this meeting.

12. Adjourned to time and place mentioned in last minutes.

There was preaching at the stand Saturday evening and Monday morning, while the Association was in session in the house.

Table—Spring Session, 1903.

CHURCHES.	MESSENGERS.
Bear Creek	W. P. Bowers*, A. Furr, A. J. Furr
Bethany	E. C. Jones, P. Vaughan, N. G. Jones
Crooked Creek	Elder J. E. Williams, W. D. Benton
Clarks Grove	E. Barbee, Adam Greene
Howards Chapel	Henry Carpenter, D. B. Howard, R. B. Burris
Jones Hill	J. S. Little, A. E. Little, R. T. Burris
Jerusalem	Ben Thomas, James Godwin, L. Williams
Liberty	Myers Medlin, O. Rogers, John Eason*
Liberty Hill	R. McIntire*, H. M. Williams
Lawyers Spring	H. M. Baucom, Colman Pond, J. W. Jones
Meadow Creek	J. A. Barbee, Daniel Hathcock
Mountain Creek	J. C. Miller, A. F. Huneycutt*, A. Vanhoy*
Pleasant Hill	J. M. Stamper*, H. P. Cashen*, J. S. Norris*
Union Grove	I. N. Medlin, Josiah Baucom, S. W. Mills
Watson	J. D. Helmes, S. L. Mullis, W. E. Williams
Freedom	Elder Jesse Brown*, J. H. Hinson*, J. A. Holt*
High Hill	C. A. Helmes, J. J. Hill, S. A. Helmes

Absentees marked thus *.

Proceedings Fall Session, 1903.

FREEDOM, Stanly County, N. C., October 3, 1903.

Met at the stand at 11 a. m. Introductory sermon delivered by Elder J. F. Mills; text 1st chapter and 8th verse of Acts. Intermission one hour.

The Association assembled in the house. Praise and prayer by Brother W. M. Moncess of Abbotts Creek. The Association then proceeded to business, Elder Mills presiding.

1. Received and read letters from the several churches and their status minuted.

2. Reappointed Elder J. F. Mills moderator and J. W. Jones clerk.

3. Invited corresponding messengers from sister associations to seats.

4. Invited visiting brethren from sister associations to seats.

5. Appointed Elder Jesse Brown and Brethren S. L. Mullis, N. G. Jones, with the Moderator and Clerk, a committee of arrangements.

6. Appointed Brethren W. D. Benton and E. Barbee a committee on finance.

7. Adjourned to 10 a. m. Monday.

Benediction by the Moderator.

Saturday evening Elder W. T. Broadway and W. M. Moncess conducted services at the stand.

Sunday Morning, October 4th.

Service opened at the stand by Elder H. M. Williams with singing and prayer. Brother W. M. Moncess preached first from the words, "I am Alpha and Omega," etc., followed by Elder S. C. Little from these words, "When Jesus came to His own they received Him not," etc. Intermission one hour.

Then Elder Broadway preached from Gallatians 3rd chapter and 29th verse. Elder J. E. Williams closed the preaching of the day by using 1st verse of 13th chapter of Zachariah.

The preaching was of a high order and well received.

Monday Morning, October 5th.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Praise and prayer by Elder Jesse Brown.

8. Called on committee of arrangements to report. Report read and adopted and committee discharged.

9. Called names of messengers, noted absentees thus * and read rules of decorum.

10. Called on corresponding messengers from sister associations to report. Brother Solomon Snider reported that Brethren Sam Snider, W. T. Broadway, Nat Tucker and himself were present as messengers from Abbotts Creek, and Brethren P. M. Foster, M. C. Morgan, C. W. Young, Willie Young, W. M. Moncess, James Moncess and Enos Sikes were also present as visitors, and that the Abbotts Creek union wished to continue their correspondence with us. They were all cordially received by us.

11. Called on corresponding messengers to sister associations to report. Elder J. E. Williams reported that Brethren Joel Mullis, W. E. Williams and himself attended the Abbotts Creek Association and were cordially received and had a comfortable meeting.

12. Called on presbyteries to report. Elder J. E. Williams reported that Elder A. G. Morton and himself formed a presbytery at Meadow Creek on Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in August, 1903, and ordained Brother H. M. Williams to the full work of the gospel ministry.

13. Appointed Elder J. E. Williams and Brethren D. B. Howard, W. E. Williams and J. H. Hinson as corresponding messengers to Abbotts Creek, and also minutes. To Mill Branch, Cool Spring, Center, Silver Creek and Mountain districts, minutes.

14. That our Articles of Faith and Rules of Decorum be published in these minutes.

15. That our next Spring Session convene with the church at Howards Chapel, Stanly county, N. C., 3 miles from Porter Station, on Yadkin Railroad, commencing on Saturday before the 1st Sunday in May, 1904, Elder A. G. Morton to preach the introductory sermon; Elder J. E. Williams alternate.

That the Fall or Annual Session convene with the church at Union Grove, Union county, N. C., about 4 miles from Monroe, commencing on Saturday before the 1st Sunday in October, 1904, Elder J. E. Williams to preach the introductory sermon; Elder J. F. Mills alternate.

16. That the Clerk ask Brother Gold to publish notices of the meeting of our next sessions in The Landmark.

17. Treasurer reports funds on hand---------- $ .05

18. Finance committee reports sent up this year-- 21.85

Total funds---------- $21.90

19. That the Clerk have 600 copies of these minutes printed and distribute as usual, and that he have $6.00 for services.

20. That we return thanks to God, this church and people of this vicinity for kindness and hospitality during this meeting.

21. Adjourned to times and places mentioned above.

Monday while the Association was in session Elders Walter Edwards and Jesse Brown conducted preaching services at the stand, much to the comfort of the brothers and sisters.

ELDER J. F. MILLS, MODERATOR.

J. W. JONES, CLERK,
Marshville, N. C., R. F. D. No. 1.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 1903.

On hand from last year		$ .05
Sent up by the churches this year		21.85
Total funds		$21.90
For printing these minutes	$13.00	
For Clerk's services	6.00	
Total expenses	$19.00	$19.00
Left in Treasury		$ 2.90

J. W. JONES, CLERK AND TREASURER.

ANNUAL COMMUNION MEETINGS.

CHURCHES.	CLERKS AND THEIR POSTOFFICES.	THE ANNUAL COMMUNION MEETING TIME OF EACH CHURCH.
Bear Creek	Aaron Furr—Bloomington, N. C.	1st Sun. in Aug.
Bethany	N. G. Jones—Jones Creek, "	3rd Sun. in Aug.
Crooked Creek	W. D. Benton—Monroe, "	3rd Sun. in July
Clark's Grove	E. Barbee—Garmond, "	2nd Sun. in July
Howard's Chapel	W. H. Poplin—Efird's Mill, "	4th Sun. in Sept.
Jones Hill	J. A. Little—Big Lick, "	3rd Sun. in Sept.
Jerusalem	T. A. Helms—Negrohead, "	2nd Sun. in Aug.
Liberty	Myers Medlin—Monroe, "	4th Sun. in July
Liberty Hill	A. J. Furr—Bloomington, "	4th Sun. in July
Lawyer's Spring	J. W. Jones—Marshville, "	1st Sun. in Aug.
Meadow Creek	D. M. Hathcock—Georgeville, "	3rd Sun. in Aug.
Mountain Creek	A. Vanhoy—New London, "	2nd Sun. in Oct.
Pleasant Hill	J. S. Norris—Statesville, "	4th Sun. in June
Union Grove	I. N. Medlin—Monroe, "	2nd Sun. in Sept.
Watson	S. L. Mullis—Sincerty, "	4th Sun. in May
Freedom	J. A. Holt—Whitley, "	2nd Sun. in Sept.
High Hill	S. A. Helms—Monroe, "	1st Sun. in Sept.

The above dates, including Saturday before, also repsesent the regular Monthly Meeting Time of the Churches.

ANNUAL STATISTICS.

CHURCHES	NAMES OF MESSENGERS—FALL SESSION	By Experience	Baptized	Rec. by Letter	Restored	Excluded	Dis. by Letter	Deceased	In Fellowship	Contributions for Minutes.
Bear Creek	W. P. Bowers, John Lewis, Green Almond	4	4	--	--	--	--	1	38	$ 1 50
Bethany	P. Vaughan *, W. A. Dry *, N. G. Jones	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	11	1 20
Crooked Creek	Elder J. E. Williams, W. D. Benton	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	13	1 00
Clark's Grove	E. Barbee, Adam Greene *, J. F. Howel *	2	2	--	--	--	--	1	16	70
Freedom	Elder Jesse Brown, J. H. Hinson, J. A. Holt	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	9	1 10
High Hill	C. A. Helmes, J. J. Hill, C. A. McRorie	4	4	--	1	2	1	1	45	2 00
Howard's Chapel	W. H. Poplin, Alvin Howard, L. H. Whitley	5	5	--	--	--	--	1	18	1 00
Jones Hill	Elder A. G. Norton, J. A. Little, J. M. Austin	--	--	1	--	2	--	--	41	1 75
Jerusalem	James Godwin, Ben Thomas *, W. A. Helmes *	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	21	1 50
Liberty	Myers Medlin *	--	--	1	1	2	--	--	14	65
Liberty Hill	Elder H. M. Williams, Rowland McIntire	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	13	85
Lawyer's Spring	Eld. Walter Edwards, Thomas Tyson, J. W. Jones	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	34	2 55
Meadow Creek	J. A. Barbee, D. M. Hathcock	3	3	--	--	--	--	--	23	1 25
Mountain Creek	J. C. Miller, B. Treece, C. W. Saftly	2	2	--	1	--	--	--	15	1 05
Pleasant Hill	J. M. Stamper, H. P. Cashen	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	12	1 00
Union Grove	Josiah Baucom, T. F. Hill, S. W. Mills	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	29	1 20
Watson	S. L. Mullis, E. C. Williams, Joel Mullis	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	29	1 55
	Absentees marked thus *. Total	21	21	3	3	6	3	4	381	$21 85

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

Article 1. We believe in one only living and true God, the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost.

Art. 2. We believe in the man Jesus being the first of all God's creation and the pattern of all God's perfection in nature, providence, grace and glory, and in relative union with the divine word, and thus united with the whole Trinity.

Art. 3. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments contain the only written revealed word of God, and are the only perfect rule of faith and practice for God's church in her militant state while here on earth.

Art. 4. We believe the doctrine of Election, that God chose his church in Christ Jesus before the world began.

Art. 5. We believe in all mankind's apostacy by transgression in Adam, their federal head.

Art. 6. We believe in the doctrine of Original Sin.

Art. 7. We believe in the impotency of man to recover himself from his fallen state by his own free will and ability.

Art. 8. We believe that sinners are justified freely by grace and before God by faith in Christ and his righteousness only.

Art. 9. We believe that God's elect or church shall be called, converted, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit in due time.

Art. 10. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and never finally fall away.

Art. 11. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Christ's appointment and that believers alone are the subjects of baptism and the only proper communicants of the supper; that the mode of baptism is immersion, and that neither of the ordinances is to be altered or changed by the inventions or opinions of men.

Art. 12. We believe that no man as a minister has any right to the administration of any of the ordinances of the gospel except such as are sound in the faith of the gospel, regularly baptized, called of God and have come under the imposition of hands by a regular Presbytery.

Art. 13. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both the just and the unjust, and a general judgment.

Art. 14. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting and the joys of the righteous eternal.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1st. A Moderator, or Chief Speaker, and Clerk may be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.

2nd. The Chief Speaker, or Moderator, shall take his seat at the hour to which the Association shall be adjourned, and after prayer shall proceed to business. It shall be his duty to keep order, and shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as that of another member; provided he appoint one of the members to fill the chair during the exercise of such privilege, and in no case shall give a vote unless the Association be equally divided.

3rd. Only one member shall be allowed to speak at a time, who shall rise from his seat and address the Chief Speaker by the appellation of Brother, and while speaking shall confine himself strictly to the subject in question, and shall not be interrupted unless he digress from the subject, and shall in no wise reflect on any other speaker, so as to make remarks on his slips and failings and imperfections, but shall fairly give his own views of the case without sophistry or criticism.

4th. No person shall speak more than three times on one subject without leave of the Association.

5th. No person shall absent himself from the Association without leave.

6th. No member of the Association shall address any other member by any other tern or name than that of Brother.

7th. The Chief Speaker, or Moderator, shall not interrupt one member to prohibit him from speaking until his speech is finished, except he break the rules of decorum.

8th. The names of all the members of this Association shall be enrolled by the Clerk, and be called over as often as the Association may require.

Any member who shall willingly and knowingly break or violate any of the foregoing rules of this Association, shall be reproved by the Association in any way they may think proper.